

House Resolution 1942

By: Representative Jones of the 44th

A RESOLUTION

1 Urging each local school district in this state to survey its established school bus routes
2 annually and submit to the Department of Transportation a list identifying each rail crossing
3 that does not have active warning devices on an established bus route; and for other purposes.

4 WHEREAS, the children of Georgia are the future and their safety is a paramount concern for
5 all of the citizens of this state; and

6 WHEREAS, a train struck a Murray County school bus at a railroad crossing March 28, 2000,
7 killing three Georgia school children; and

8 WHEREAS, the National Transportation Safety Board has made specific recommendations that
9 the states make it a high priority to improve safety at ungated railroad crossings used by school
10 buses; and

11 WHEREAS, Georgia is one of the ten states with the highest number of collisions between
12 trains and vehicles at grade crossings; and

13 WHEREAS, increasing safety at railroad crossings, especially crossings used by school buses,
14 is a vital concern of the citizens of this state; and

15 WHEREAS, each local school district should exercise its best efforts to minimize the number
16 of established school bus routes that cross rail crossings where active warning devices are not
17 used; and

18 WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation should rely heavily on the information about
19 school bus routes in selecting rail crossings to upgrade with active warning devices.

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that the
21 members of this body urge each local school district in this state to survey its established

1 school bus routes annually and submit to the Department of Transportation a list identifying
2 each rail crossing that does not have active warning devices on an established bus route.

3 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Department of Transportation is requested and
4 encouraged to use the information about school bus routes as an important factor in selecting
5 rail crossings to upgrade with active warning devices.

6 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized and
7 directed to transmit an appropriate copy of this resolution to the Department of Transportation
8 and the chairperson of each county or municipal school board in this state.